

Written by Dallas Rogers, Program Director, Master of Urbanism. School of Architecture, Design and Planning, University of Sydney

One of the most common complaints about community involvement in the urban planning process is “NIMBYism” – the “not in my backyard” cry from local residents, which developers and potential residents of medium-to-high-density apartments see as an impediment to healthy urban development and affordable housing.

At the same time, local residents often see the planning process as freezing them out of having any real say in development that can affect local amenities, transport and neighbourhood character.

[Recent changes to planning legislation in New South Wales](#) make community participation plans a mandatory part of the process, in an effort to put consultation at the centre of urban planning.

But how do you balance these two competing, seemingly antagonistic groups?

Dallas Rogers speaks with Cameron McAuliffe, Senior Lecturer in Human Geography and Urban Studies at Western Sydney University, about how urban planning can leverage the natural conflict between groups with very different demands to reach better solutions, why the NIMBY slur is often misplaced and how local resident action groups are working beyond the current urban planning system to achieve their goals.

This podcast reports on data in the research paper “Tracing resident antagonisms in urban development: agonistic pluralism and participatory planning”, to be published in [Geographical Research](#).

[Subscribe](#) to *The Conversation's Speaking With* podcasts on Apple Podcasts, or [follow](#) on Tunein Radio.

Speaking with: Cameron McAuliffe on NIMBYs, urban planning and making community consultation work

Written by Dallas Rogers, Program Director, Master of Urbanism. School of Architecture, Design and Planning, University of Sydney

Music

- [Free Music Archive: Ketsa - Catching feathers](#)

Dallas Rogers recently received funding from Western Sydney University, Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute (AHURI), Urban Growth NSW, University of Sydney, and Community Broadcasting Association of Australia. The Henry Halloran Trust funded the research reported on in this podcast.

Authors: Dallas Rogers, Program Director, Master of Urbanism. School of Architecture, Design and Planning, University of Sydney

Read more <http://theconversation.com/speaking-with-cameron-mcauliffe-on-nimbys-urban-planning-and-making-community-consultation-work-93744>